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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| In re U.S. Patent Application: |) | Before the Examiner |
| Liu et al. |) | Thomas C. Barrett |
| |) | |
| Application No. 10/617,309 |) | Group Art Unit 3738 |
| |) | |
| Filed July 10, 2003 |) | Our Ref.: MSDI-201/ PC273.19 |
| |) | |
| SPINAL IMPLANT METHOD AND CUTTING |) | July 11, 2005 |
| TOOL PREPARATION ACCESSORY FOR |) | |
| MOUNTING THE IMPLANT |) | |

*Via Facsimile Transmission: 571-273-8300***AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated March 22, 2005, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment and consideration of the accompanying remarks. A fee in the amount of \$120 is enclosed herewith for a one (1) month extension, thereby extending the time period to respond to the final Office Action to July 22, 2005. If any additional extensions or fees are deemed necessary, please provide such extensions of time and charge any such fees to Deposit Account 12-2424, but not including payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent
and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

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Date of Transmission

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Signature

July 11, 2005

Date of Signature

Response to Final Office Action
Liu et al., USSN 10/617,309

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